

Resuscitation DeviceRelated Patent

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This application is a continuation of patent application
now abandoned
5 09/703,004, filed October 31, 2000, which is a continuation of
patent application 08/922,723, filed August 27, 1997, now U.S.
Patent 6,142,962, issued November 7, 2000.

Field of the Invention

10 This invention relates to emergency medical devices and
methods.

Background of the Invention

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a well known and
valuable method of first aid. CPR is used to resuscitate people
who have suffered from cardiac arrest after heart attack, electric
15 shock, chest injury and many other causes. During cardiac arrest,
the heart stops pumping blood, and a person suffering cardiac
arrest will soon suffer brain damage from lack of blood supply to
the brain. Thus, CPR requires repetitive chest compression to
squeeze the heart and the thoracic cavity to pump blood through
20 the body. Very often, the victim is not breathing, and mouth to
mouth artificial respiration or a bag valve mask is used to supply
air to the lungs while the chest compression pumps blood through
the body.

25 It has been widely noted that CPR and chest compression can
save cardiac arrest victims, especially when applied immediately
after cardiac arrest. Chest compression requires that the person
providing chest compression repetitively push down on the sternum